IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-42 (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge comprising:

a body portion for enclosing filter media for filtering a fluid; and

a neck portion including an inlet port for directing unfiltered fluid into the body portion and an outlet port for directing filtered fluid out of the body portion, the neck portion having at least two lugs depending radially outwardly therefrom, each lug having engagement surfaces which face away from the body portion, wherein each lug has an inclined cam surface axially spaced from the body portion and facing toward the body portion in a generally axial direction for cooperating with camming ramps on a compatible reception assembly, at least one of the engagement surfaces defining a keyed surface formation comprising:

at least one tooth extending axially from remaining portions of the engagement surfaces relative to the neck, the at least one tooth enabling the cartridge to mate with a compatible reception assembly and preventing the cartridge from mating with an incompatible reception assembly.

Claim 44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein each lug has an engagement surface defining a keyed surface formation.

46. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 45, wherein the keyed surface formation on each lug of the cartridge is substantially similar.

47. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 45, wherein the keyed surface formation on each lug of the cartridge is different.

48. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein the neck portion has a pair of diametrically opposed lugs.

49. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein the neck portion has three circumferentially spaced apart lugs.

50. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein the neck portion has first and second pairs of diametrically opposed lugs, wherein the first pair of lugs is disposed at a first height on the neck portion and the second pair of lugs is disposed at a second height on the neck portion.

51. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein the keyed surface formation is on an axially facing engagement surface of the lug.

52. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein the keyed surface formation is on a radially facing engagement surface of the lug.

53. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 43, wherein at least a first portion of the keyed surface formation is on an axially facing engagement surface of the lug and at least a second portion of the keyed surface formation is on a radially facing engagement surface of the lug.

54. (Previously presented) A filter cartridge comprising:

a body portion for enclosing filter media for filtering a fluid; and

a neck portion including an inlet port for directing unfiltered fluid into the body portion and an outlet port for directing filtered fluid out of the body portion, the neck portion having at least two lugs depending radially outwardly therefrom, each lug having radial and axial engagement surfaces facing away from the body portion, wherein each lug has an inclined cam surface axially spaced from the body portion and facing toward the body portion in a generally axial direction for cooperating with camming ramps on a compatible reception assembly, at least one of the engagement surfaces defining a keyed surface formation comprising:

at least one protrusion extending axially from remaining portions of the engagement surfaces relative to the neck, the at least one protrusion enabling the cartridge to mate with a compatible reception assembly and preventing the cartridge from mating with an incompatible reception assembly.

Claim 55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein each lug has an engagement surface defining a keyed surface formation.

57. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 56, wherein the keyed surface formation on each lug of the cartridge is substantially similar.

58. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 56, wherein the keyed surface formation on each lug of the cartridge is different.

59. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein the neck portion has a pair of diametrically opposed lugs.

60. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein the neck portion has three circumferentially spaced apart lugs.

61. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein the neck portion has first and second pairs of diametrically opposed lugs, wherein the first pair of lugs is disposed at a first height on the neck portion and the second pair of lugs is disposed at a second height on the neck portion.

62. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein the keyed surface formation is on the axial engagement surface of the lug.

63. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein the keyed surface formation is on the radial engagement surface of the lug.

64. (Previously Presented) A filter cartridge as recited in Claim 54, wherein at least a first portion of the keyed surface formation is on the axial engagement surface of the lug and at least a second portion of the keyed surface formation is on the radial engagement surface of the lug.